An aerial photograph of a wide river valley, likely the Colorado River, with rugged mountains in the background under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on this image.

# **U.S.-Mexico Inland Joint Response Team Meeting**

## **JCP Notification System Update Proposed Revisions**

**February 15, 2006 • San Diego, California**

# US-Mexico JCP Appendix A Revisions

- The Mexican National Communications Center (CENACOM), within Coordinación General de Protección Civil, was added.
- CENACOM operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- The Mexican Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection's (PROFEPA) Center of Information for Environmental Emergencies, COATEA, receives notifications from Monday-Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm
- Notification drills were conducted with the new contact information

# December 2005 Notification Drills

- Tested the notification procedures of the revised draft of the U.S.-Mexico JCP (located in Appendix A)
- Drills were conducted in California, Texas, and New Mexico
- Information provided to the U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center (NRC) and the regional offices in advance
  - Scenarios
  - updated phone number lists
  - revised notification form (JCP Appendix A)
- One notification drill was conducted in Spanish to test NRC language capabilities

# General Observations from the December 2005 Notification Drills

- Mexican National Communications Center (CENACOM) and the Mexican Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) appeared to have not been notified
- EPA's Office of Emergency Management Emergency Operations Center was notified in only one drill

# State-Specific Observations from the December 2005 Notification Drills

- California
  - Most notifications on NRC report
  - Notified Arizona agencies and offices
- Texas
  - Notification to Mexican agencies was not listed on NRC report
- New Mexico
  - Notification to New Mexico state emergency management office was not listed on NRC report

# Spanish-Speaker Observations

- NRC voicemail did not have an option for Spanish speakers
- NRC operator did not speak Spanish and did not immediately transfer the call to the language line translator
- Transfer to language line translator resulted in phone disconnection
- To make notifications in Spanish from abroad, callers need to use the NRC direct access number: **011 (202) 267-2675**

# Proposed JCP Notification Updates

## January 23, 2006 EPA and USCG NRC Meeting

- **Issue:** NRC is unable to send faxes to numbers with extensions - Mexican agencies identified a direct fax line available for incident notifications
- **Proposed Solutions**
  - Notifications will be sent to CENACOM's direct fax line
  - During normal office hours, the notified EPA regional office could send a fax to Mexican agencies
  - After normal office hours, the NRC would verbally notify Mexican agencies, depending on established criteria

# Proposed JCP Notification Updates

## January 23, 2006 EPA and USCG NRC Meeting

- **Issue:** The NRC used incorrect and/or outdated contact numbers when notifying drill participants
- **Proposed Solutions**
  - EPA will supply the NRC with an updated fax numbers and phone numbers for all participants
  - The phone and fax numbers will be tested during the next notification drill conducted in 2006
  - CENACOM's dedicated fax numbers will be provided

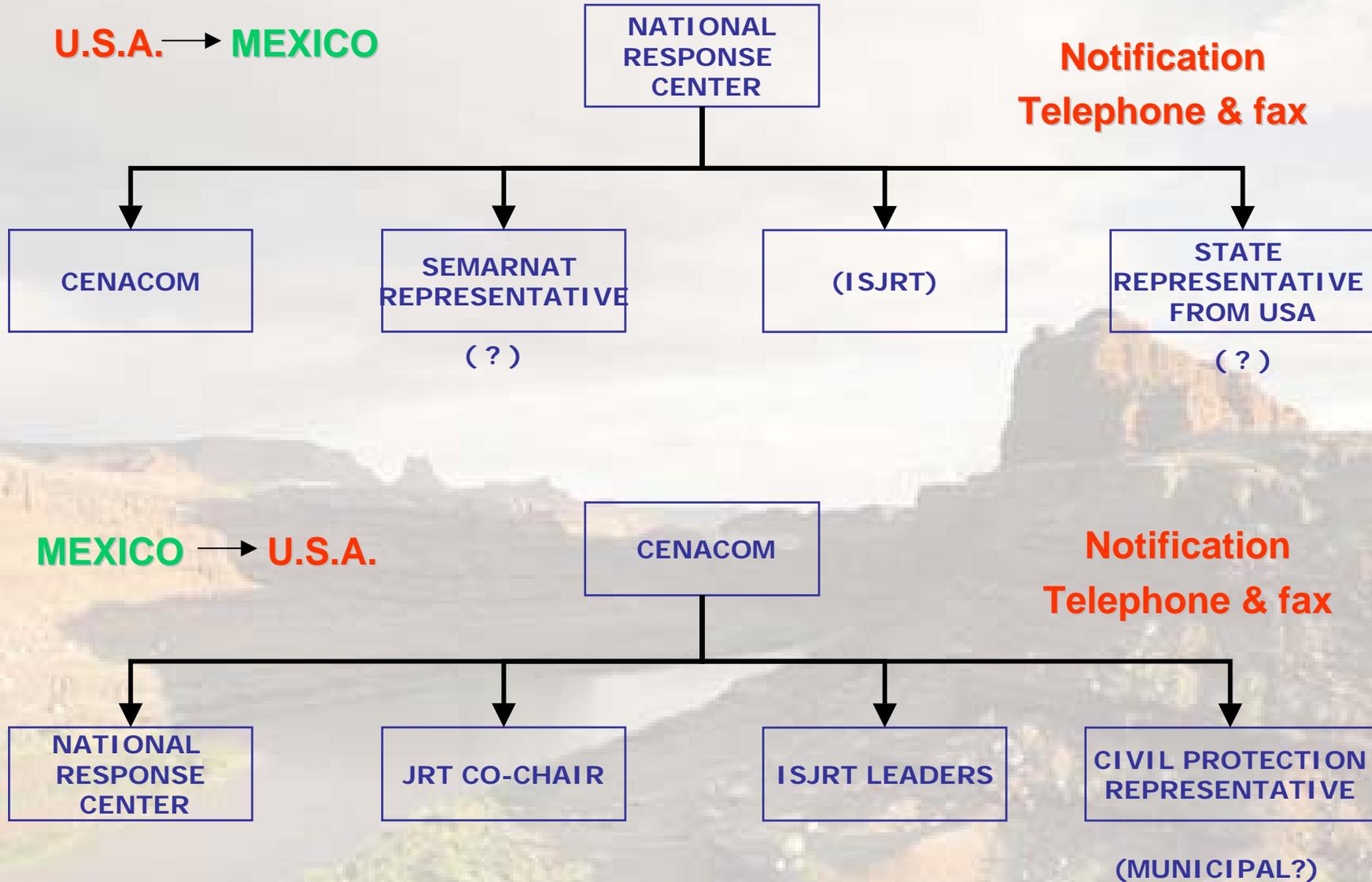
# Proposed JCP Notification Updates

## January 23, 2006 EPA and USCG NRC Meeting

- **Issue:** Many state and local agencies did not receive notifications during the drills
- **Proposed Solutions**
  - The NRC does not automatically notify state and local agencies
  - State and local agencies must request that they receive notification
  - EPA regional offices will serve as a liaison between the state and local agencies and the NRC
  - EPA regional offices will contact state and local agencies to determine if they would like to be involved in the notification process

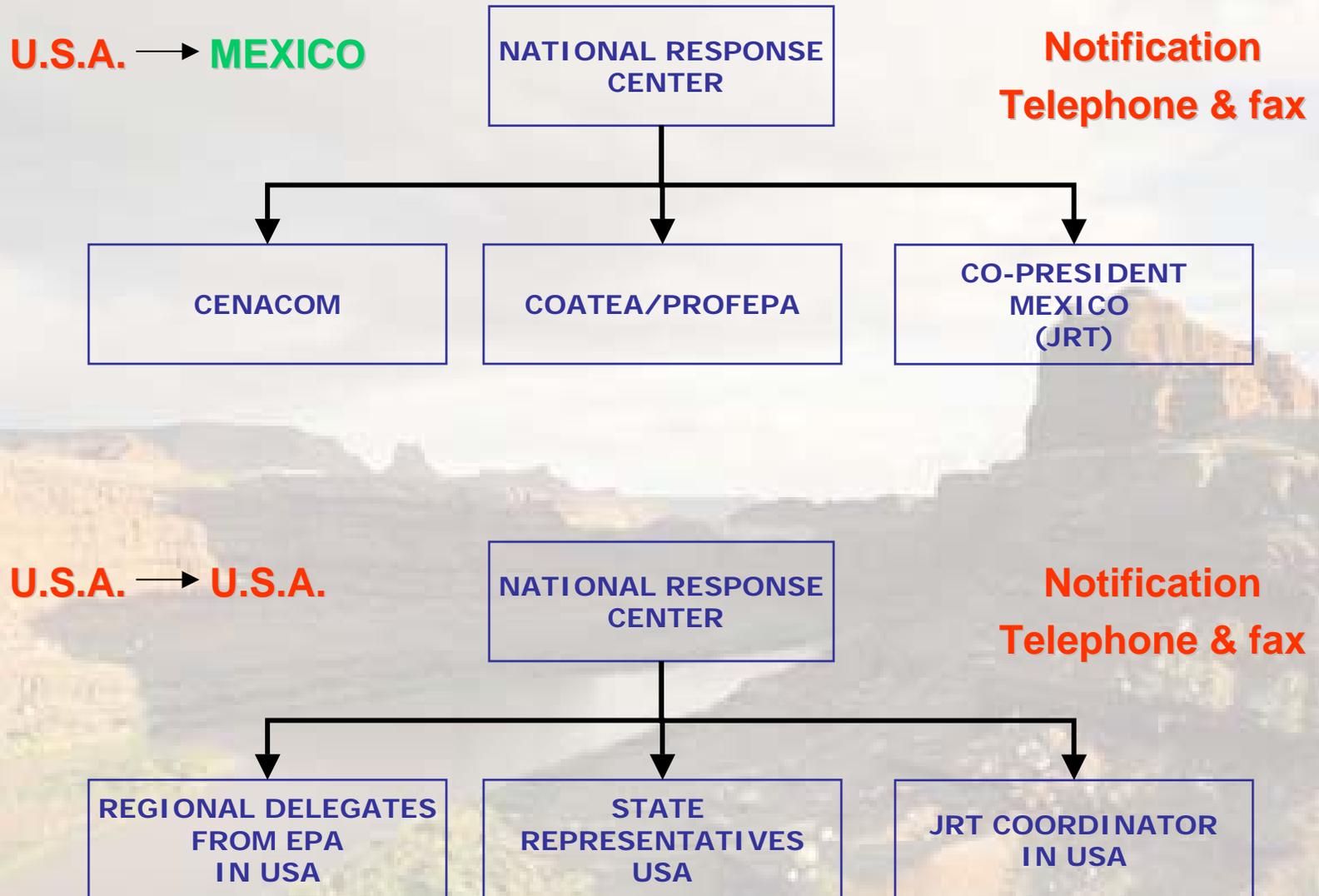
# APPENDIX A

## CURRENT NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES



# APPENDIX A

## NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES (*USA proposal*)



# APPENDIX A

## NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES *(Mexico proposal)*

